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UNCLAS QUITO 002743

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TERRORIST FINANCING COORDINATING OFFICER

REF: STATE 175637

1. In response to reftel, Post,s Terrorist Finance Coordination Officer (TFCO) is DCM Jefferson Brown, telephone number 593-2-256-2890 ext. 4420. His unclassified email address is brownjt2@state.gov. The Deputy TFCO is Economic Officer Donn-Allan Titus, telephone number 593-2-256-2890 ext. 4468. His email address is titusd@state.gov.

2. Until October, Ecuador,s money laundering law had been woefully inadequate. After significant efforts by Post, particularly the Narcotics Affairs Section (NAS), Ecuador recently passed a vastly improved (though not perfect) money laundering law. NAS is also working with the Organization of American States (OAS) Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) on a program to develop a Financial Investigations Unit (FIU) to help more effectively implement the new law. The Political and Public Affairs sections have used private and public diplomacy to increase support for combating money laundering, while the Econ section works with the Superintendent of Banks and others on the issue, with special attention to terrorist financing. DEA investigations also contribute to these mission objectives.

3. Our key short-term priorities are the effective implementation of the new money laundering law and more effective regulation of the banking sector. Post would welcome any program of technical assistance that would help us meet those priorities.

BROWN